

THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
CUDWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
ON THE
HEALTH OF CUDWORTH,
FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1904.

CUDWORTH :

WALTER NEALE, Printer and Stationer, Barnsley Road.

1905.

Ashley House,
Cudworth,
March, 1905.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF CUDWORTH,

For the Year ending 31st December, 1904.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Cudworth Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in giving my Annual Report regarding the sanitary condition of the district. Now should there be the same number of persons per house as at the Census, the population (at present) is 4,670.

In it you will find much matter—text, tables, &c., which I hope will receive your deep consideration, and I unhesitatingly ask for your searching criticism.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The population at General Census,	1901—3,415.
Estimated „ „ end of year	1901—3,800.
„ „ „ „ „ „	1902—4,200.
„ „ „ „ „ „	1903—4,400.
„ „ „ „ „ „	1904—4,670.

During the year 1904 the number of New Dwelling-houses included in the Supplemental Valuation Lists was 65.

The number of inhabited Dwelling-houses in Cudworth on the 31st December, 1904, was 934. As the averaged number of persons per house may be taken as 5, we can reckon the actual population at present to be 46,70.

TABLE I.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS AT A GLANCE.

Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births :—

Under one year	5·00	6·30
Between one and two	1·30	

Zymotic Death Rate, i.e., from the 7 principal

Zymotic Diseases	nil
------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Total notifications of Infectious Disease

76

Phthisis (consumption) Death Rate

0·65

Death Rate of "Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy,
and other Respiratory Diseases" Group

2·67

These figures form in themselves an epitome of the Sanitary State of the District, and they compare (even) more favourably than those of the previous year.

BIRTHS.

178 Births were registered.

As to months : Most were in April (21), September and November (18 each), and least in July (6).

As to Sex : 93 Males and 85 Females. Out of these were 4 illegitimate.

Birth Rate in 1901—44·70 per 1,000 population.

„	1902—38·33	„	„
„	1903—38·40	„	„
„	1904—38·96	„	„

TABLE II.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total Males & Females.
1901.	77	72	149
1902.	82	79	161
1903.	80	89	169
1904.	93	85	178

TABLE III.

BIRTH RATE.

Year.	Male.	Female.
1901.	23.10	21.60
1902.	19.52	18.80
1903.	18.18	20.22
1904.	19.90	18.20

DEATHS.

53 Deaths occurred during the year, as against 55 in 1903, showing a decrease of two with an increasing population; consequently the lowest Death Rate since I came into Cudworth.

TABLE IV.

Year.	Death Rate.
1901.	21.60
1902.	16.19
1903.	12.50
1904.	11.52

The months of January, April and December were the most unhealthy. The least number of Deaths occurring in the months of February, June, September, and October (only 7 altogether in those 4 months).

AS TO MORTALITY AT GROUPS OF AGES.

TABLE V.

24	died under 1 year of age.
8	„ between 1 and 5 years.
2	„ „ 5 „ 15 „
1	„ „ 15 „ 25 „
13	„ „ 25 „ 65 „

And the remaining 5 dying at 71, 72, 75, 79, and 81 respectively.

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

were as follows :—Measles, 1 ; Whooping Cough, 1 ; Dentition, 4 ; Infantile Convulsions, 10 ; Phthisis 3 ; Bronchitis, 4 ; Heart Disease, 2 ; Epilepsy, 1 ; Apoplexy, 2 ; Senility, 4 ; Premature Birth, 1 ; Meningitis, 2 ; Gastritis, 1 ; Acute Rheumatism, 1 ; Cancer, 2 ; Nephritis, 1 ; Dis. and Acc. of Parturition, 2 ; Feeble Vitality from Birth, 4 ; Influenza, 1 ; Atheroma, 1 ; Diarrhoea, 1 ; Tonsilitis, 1 ; Lencocythœmia, 1 ; Broncho. Pneumonia, 2.

The Coroner had occasion to hold 3 Inquests during the year.

TABLE VI.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Measles	1	1			
Smallpox					
Scarlet Fever					
Whooping Cough	1	1			
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup..							
) Typhoid					
Fever Typhus					
) Simple, Continued, etc.						
Diarrhoea	1	1			
Phthisis	3		1		2
Other Tubercular Diseases ...							
Cancer (Malignant Diseases)	2					2
Bronchitis	4	3	1		
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	2	1	1		
Alcoholism					
Diseases and Accidents of Par- turition	2				2
Heart Disease	2			1	1
Suicides					
Apoplexy	2				2
Epilepsy	1				1
Infantile Convulsions	10	9	1		
Feeble Vitality from Birth	4	4				
Premature Birth	1	1			
Dentition	4	2	2		
Senectus	4				4
Gastritis	1		1		
Meningitis	2		1		
Nephritis	1				1
Lencocytthœmia	1		1		
Tonsilitis	1	1			
Influenza	1			1	
Athronia	1				1
Acute Rheumatism	1				1
All causes ...	53	24	8	2	1	13	5

N.B.—Diseases of the Respiratory Organs claim 9 Deaths (this being 7 less than last year). Death Rate, 1·92 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Again Infantile Mortality is answerable for the biggest factor in the Death Rate.

N.B.—No fewer than 32 out of 53 of the deaths were in children under two years of age.

Pulmonary Diseases, Feeble Vitality from Birth, Convulsions, Diarrhoea, and Dentition being the prevailing causes.

You must observe that you cannot even take this rate in its entirety as indicating the sanitary condition of your district, but I ask you to carefully study the tables in pamphlet before arriving at any definite conclusions sanitarily.

No doubt pollution of food, especially the milk of children, would conduce to the high mortality. Sanitation and scavenging are the necessary preventatives.

TABLE VII.

Under one year old 24 children died, as compared with 29 in 1903. Causes of death:—

Premature Birth	...	...	1
Feeble Vitality from Birth...			4
Measles	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	1
Diarrhoea	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	4
Convulsions	...	...	9
Dentition	...	...	2
Tonsilitis	...	...	1
			—
			24

It is with great satisfaction I report our lowest Infantile Death Rate since Urban Powers were privileged.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The seven principal diseases, viz.: Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Erysipelas, Measles.

Notifications: 76 recorded as against 30 in 1903.

TABLE VIII.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1904:—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	At all Ages.							Cases removed to Kendray Hospital or Lund Wood.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Diphtheria ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Membranous Croup ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	21	—	1	—	4	16	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	51	—	17	33	1	—	—	*32
Enteric Fever ...	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Smallpox ...	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	+2
Total ...	76	—	18	34	6	18	—	34

* Denotes Kendray. + Denotes Lund Wood.

This year is very conspicuous, on account of the prevalence of Scarlet Fever and Erysipelas, and two cases of Smallpox.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Two cases of this disease occurred, one in September, the other in October, both of which were treated at home, and both recovering.

Curiously enough both cases were next door to each other at Darfield Road Cottages—Pinfold.

I do not intend to account for the cause, but some blame has been attributed to the "sump" at the back of the houses—but without reason. Nevertheless, I must "strongly" point out that "smells" are a dangerous nuisance, especially when the wind is in a northerly direction. I have suggested at your monthly meetings that these sumps are serious defects, which it behoves you to thoroughly investigate through the Sanitary Committee.

MEASLES.

Prevalent during January and December, but mild in character. Only one death occurred.

I did not consider it necessary to close the schools, as I am of opinion that the disease is spread more by so doing.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 51 cases were met with, 32 of which were removed to Kendray Hospital, and the remaining nineteen were efficiently isolated at home.

The Hospital was not always able to receive the cases, and it has been my practice during the last two or three years where a case was mild, or where it was possible with efficiency, to isolate at home.

But I am strongly of opinion, however, that without a Fever Hospital Scarlatina, in certain parts, would be as rampant as Measles.

No death occurred.

SMALL POX.

Two cases were introduced into the district, one on July 20th, and the other on August 10th.

In both cases the men (who lodged at the same house) came into my evening surgery on the dates named. They had travelled from Bury (Lancashire), through Dewsbury and Horbury, to Cudworth.

In both cases the men were most obedient to my instruction, viz., to go and stay in a certain lane, where no houses existed, until the Ambulance arrived.

Isolation in Lund Wood Hospital was carried out, and the patients, after the usual time, returned home in good health, but not much marked.

Bed clothing and patient's clothes, as well as those of the contacts, were disinfected.

Primary vaccination and re-vaccination were performed the same night as soon as possible. Quarantine was enforced for five days, until vaccination proved successful, and fortunately no other case occurred.

An allowance was granted by you to provide food, and necessities destroyed and burnt, &c.

The house was twice most efficiently disinfected with Formic Aldehyde, under my supervision.

WORKSHOPS (1901 ACT).

These number about 22.

Bakehouse	...	...	6
Millinery	...	...	2
Dressmaking	...	...	4
Boot Repairing	...	\\	
Printing	...	/	
Joinery	...	/	
Plumbing	...	/	10
Blacksmiths	...	/	
Jewellery	...		
			—
			22

No nuisance was met with in connection with the above, nor did any infectious disease occur amongst the workers.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

As to quality—good.

„ „ quantity—complaints less frequent than in 1903.

It has never (so far as I am aware) been proved to be the cause of any disease in the districts supplied.

Up to September, 1904, Ingbirchworth water was used, but since that time water from Midhope (New Reservoirs) has been used.

In consequence of the discolouration of the water, Mr. Taylor (Borough Engineer, Barnsley), was written to. His reply was: "Any discolouration of the water will probably be due to the change in the current of the water, and hope that in a few days it will disappear."

SANITARY MATTERS.

Both General and Special Inspections were made during the year.

Character of House Accommodation.

Even less crowded than in 1903. No house was condemned as unfit for human habitation, though a few cases of overcrowding were dealt with.

Common Lodging Houses.

Nil, and it is hoped the day is far distant when such a place will be erected, for they are the seat of much disease.

Slaughter Houses

Have been inspected from time to time, and all are kept in a satisfactory state.

Scavenging.

I here again state this year as in former year, that I attach much importance to "efficiency" in this matter.

I considered it very efficient in 1904, and the Sanitary Committee have been extremely anxious to carry out any suggestions made for improvement, and have held frequent meetings.

231 Inspections were made during the year, and 19 notices served to abate nuisances only, with several verbal notices also.

Sewerage.

Since my last Annual Report I was hoping to have been able to give an account of our "sewerage scheme," which is but slowly progressing—however, it is hoped that the day is not far distant when it will be

satisfactorily completed and your district will reap the advantages therefrom.

Cowsheds

Have been regularly inspected. Again this year no milk has been traced to be the cause of any infectious disease in the district.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

I read the contents, and am very pleased to say that I consider it very satisfactory.

Since he was appointed he has carried out my instructions most regularly, efficiently, and bravely, for during the year he had to contend with 32 Scarlet Fever cases and 2 of Smallpox. He was successfully revaccinated.

Again, I must here state that it pleases me to thank you for the courteous receptions you have always given me at your monthly meetings, and I never fear approaching you with any new views, which have for their object any improvement to the sanitary state of your township.

Gentlemen,

I am,

Yours obediently,

J. L. ELLIOTT,

Medical Officer of Health.

March, 1905.